

# EXTRA! BLOUNT WINS

## RECOUNT ENDS: VICTORY MARGIN UPPED TO 17

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## Warren, Roosevelt Split Local Vote

Torrance voters went along with the state Tuesday on the voting for Warren and Roosevelt. Warren got nearly a 15 to 1 margin on the Republican ticket while Roosevelt holds an 800-vote margin over Warren on the Democratic side. A total of 2833 votes were cast here for Warren and 2181 for Roosevelt.

In the Senatorial race here, it was Douglas, Boddy, and Nixon in that order on the Democratic ticket and Nixon, Boddy, and Douglas on the Republican.

Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, running for Lt. Governor, bowed to Incumbent Knight on both tickets here. Knight held a 1058 to 649 lead on the Democratic side, and an 870 to 668 lead on the Republican.

Edmund Brown, district attorney of San Francisco, led Incumbent Fred Howser and Edward S. Shattuck in the Democratic race for Attorney General. In Republican balloting, Shattuck led while Howser and Brown trailed.

Incumbent William G. Bonelli led his closest rival, Ernest E. Debs, by a substantial margin here as he did in the whole fourth district, in his quest for return to the State Board of Equalization.

In the State Senatorial primaries, Sen. Jack Tenney took a two vote victory here from Assemblyman Glenn Anderson on the Democratic side while former Atty. Gen. Robert W. Kenny trailed a poor third. On the Republican side, Tenney enjoyed a larger margin. Kenny did not crossfile.

Rep. Cecil King was swept back into office by an overwhelming majority on both the Democratic and Republican tickets. The same holds true for State Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

In the race for Lt. Governor, Incumbent Goodwin Knight appeared to have an easy win on both tickets—assuming his of the office. Supervisor Raymond V. Darby is evidently out of the picture.

Also assured of his office is Gen. Biscath Los Angeles County Sheriff. Biscath had piled up more votes than all of his opponents as the returns continued to pile up yesterday afternoon.

Statewide, Gov. Earl Warren won the Republican nomination for re-election by a landslide in Tuesday's election, but he was trailing Democrat James Roosevelt by 128,566 votes for the Democratic nomination at 4 p.m. yesterday. At that time, 11,139 of the state's 18,022 precincts had been reported.

## Pilot Leapfrogs Local Field Enroute To N.Y.

Charles Soderstrom, cross-country flying new car dealer, leaned from his plane, kissed his wife goodbye at the Torrance Municipal Airport—and then took off from Terminal Island airport on a record flight to New York on Tuesday.

The flying auto dealer of San Pedro had previously intended to take off from the local field and had completed all last-minute load tests from the field and signed a release for the City of Torrance and the operators of the airstrip.

Clues that Soderstrom had been plane-nabbed by the San Pedro interests to make the initial takeoff from the port city were not hard to find.

Plastered on the side of his plane in letters large enough to be seen in St. Louis were the words "City of San Pedro."

The airman established a mark for a non-stop flight for small planes when he successfully made it from the local harbor to La Guardia field in 16 hours and 12 minutes last Tuesday.

Soderstrom switched his take-off field at the last minute when, according to the San Pedro News-Pilot: "Fellow directors of the Chamber of Commerce (San Pedro) asked Soderstrom to take off from Reeves Field so that the flight would be from San Pedro to New York."

The flight gave New York a lot of nice publicity, it was said.

Judge Willett yesterday congratulated Shidler on his victory and publicly expressed his appreciation to his friends for their support.

Meanwhile, Shidler complimented his colleague for conducting such a clean campaign and expressed his happiness over the support given him in his home town.

"I am fully aware of the tremendous effort that was expended to 'get out the vote' and sincerely appreciate all the work that was done in helping re-elect me to the Gardens Justice Court was all but confirmed yesterday as the returns from 152 of 176 precincts in the area gave the victor about a 2-1 lead over Torrance City Judge Otto B. Willett, only other candidate for the office.

The count for the 152 precincts was Shidler 13,518, and Willett, 7830.

Returns from the missing 24 precincts were buried under a mountain of ballot returns of other offices on Tuesday's ballot," according to the office of the County Registrar of Voters.

In Torrance Shidler carried all 31 municipal precincts for a total of 3428 votes against Willett's 1602 votes.

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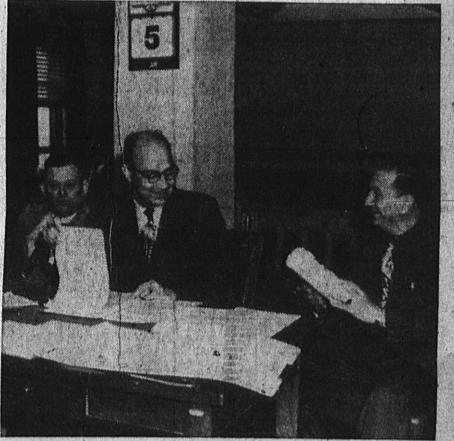


START OF RECOUNT . . . City Clerk A. H. Bartlett (left) brings into the court the ballots which were cast in the last council race and which are presently being recounted to determine true outcome of the election. Pictured with Bartlett are Dale Riley (rear), James Moorehead, both Torrance City employees, and a deputy sheriff.—Herald Photo

Councilman Willys G. Blount was officially declared the winner of the April 11 election for the City Council today after a four-day court battle which ended in court-conducted re-



WINNING PAIR . . . Attorney S. V. O. Prichard (left) with his client, Councilman Willys G. Blount, study sections of political code during Superior Court re-counting of April 11 election.



LOSING TRIO . . . Nicholas Cucci (left), former city councilman who joined with Victor Benstead (right) in demanding re-counting of recent municipal election. Their attorney, Albert Isen, is seated between his two clients. Picture was taken in Superior Court of Judge Stanley Mosk.

## School Board to Review Hardy Resignation Case

Agreeing to review the resignation of Miss Harriett Hardy, girls' vice principal at Torrance High School, the Board of Education Tuesday night set a closed committee meeting preceding the next regular board session as the time for discussion.

The decision to reopen the case followed the reading of a letter addressed to the board in which Miss Hardy retracted her resignation tendered several weeks ago.

Acceptance of her resignation by the board, along with a group of other teachers in the district, brought considerable criticism of the board by parents of some high school girls and other citizens.

The criticism fell the heaviest on Board President Dr. Howard A. Wood, who refused to discuss in public the qualifications

of the various personnel concerned. Political observers claimed that in attempting to protect Miss Hardy as well as other teachers on the "resignations accepted list" from becoming the subject of a public discussion, Dr. Wood cost himself the recent school board election.

In holding to the principle of not discussing personalities at a public board meeting, Dr. Wood and Dr. J. Henrich Hull, superintendent of schools, expressed the opinion that it would be an injustice and unfair to the persons concerned to make them a subject of public discussion.

## GUARD UNITS TO AID IN WALTERIA DEFENSE

The National Guard is going to defend Walteria. Designated as a project for the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion, the local guardsmen will cut a three-mile 20-foot fire break through the grassy hills adjacent to Walteria, and Hollywood Rivers.

The path, say, officers of the local battalion, will follow the city boundary line between Torrance and the City of Palos Verdes and will establish fire fighting responsibility between the two cities.

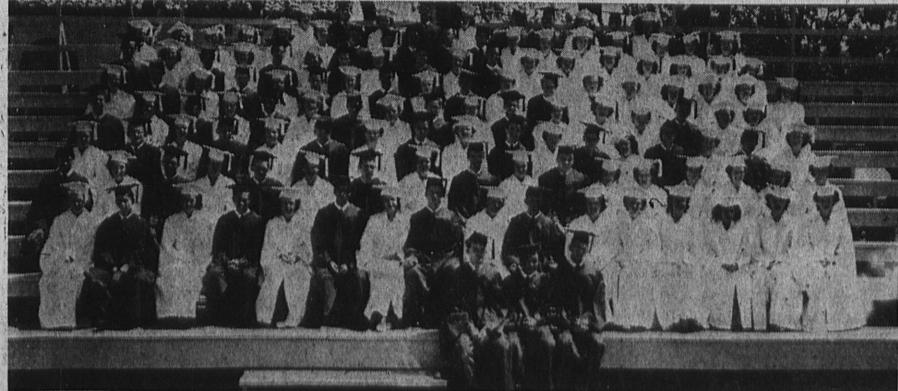
National Guard officers estimate the project will require about three or four week ends to complete with a starting date of June 24 set for the project.

Bulldozer crews of about 15 men will work on the undertaking.

## TEAC To Meet At Noon Today

Torrance Educational Advisory committee will hold its regular monthly meeting beginning at 12:05 today in the High School cafeteria, 2200 Carson street.

On the agenda for today's meeting is Summer Recreation, according to Grace Wright, moderator of the meetings.



LARGEST . . . The pageantry of graduation exercises to be held on the Torrance High School athletic field tonight at 8 p.m. will include the traditional awarding of diplomas to the graduating seniors. Tonight 163 students, the largest class ever to graduate from the local high school, will march up to receive their academic sheepskins—symbol of the completion of 12 years of learning. Photo by Dixie Lee Studios.

## Commencement Exercises Set For 8 Tonight

"We Are History." Using that as a theme, 163 men and women will step officially out of roles as high school students tonight in the 34th annual graduation at Torrance High School in ceremonies which begin at 8 p.m. in the school stadium.

A striking departure from the usual program of having a commencement speaker and speeches by the valedictorian and salutatorian, the seniors this year will be ushered "out into the world" with a resume of the highlights of the past half century and a query which each can ask of himself: "Are we going to be spectators or partici-

## RE-COUNT TABULATION ON LAST 9 PRECINCTS

(Precincts 1 through 21 listed in earlier edition)

PRECINCT No. REGISTRATION POLLING PLACE	BLOUNT		BENSTEAD	
	Original Vote	Recount	Original Vote	Recount
No. 22—259 1350 Engracia	51	50	44	44
No. 23—273 13811 Eshelman	9	9	39	39
No. 24—242 209 Via Colusa Hollywood-Riviera	51	51	9	9
No. 25—437 School Auditorium	147	147	24	24
No. 26—394 1812 Reynosa Kettler Knolls	46	46	86	86
No. 27—209 23007 Doris Way Seaside Ranchos	84	84	25	25
No. 28—283 200 Via La Circula Hollywood-Riviera	78	78	17	17
No. 29—290 724 Calle de Arboles Hollywood-Riviera	56	55	14	14
No. 30—263 816 Calle de Arboles Hollywood-Riviera	84	84	17	17
TOTAL CANDIDATE VOTE	1421	1415	1414	1398

## Challenged for the seat after he won by a seven-vote margin over Victor E. Benstead, Blount was adjudged to be the winning candidate when the completed re-count of ballots from the city's 30 precincts jumped his victory margin from seven to 17.

Also challenging Blount's right to the post was former councilman Nick Cucci. Defended in the action by Atty. S. V. O. Prichard Blount was forced into the recount Monday afternoon after Superior Court Judge Stanley Mosk denied Prichard's motion that the demand for a recount be set aside.

Prichard based his demand on the grounds that Attorney Albert Isen, representing Benstead and Cucci in the battle for the disputed post, had failed to show that any specific irregularities or illegal actions had occurred during the April 11 voting.

Ballots in the disputed Precinct 2 were also re-counted, resulting in no change in the original tally.